Remarks/Arguments

This paper is submitted supplemental to the response which was filed on November 3, 2008. Following that response, the undersigned participated in a telephone interview with the Examiner, and dependent Claim 50 was discussed during that interview. The Examiner suggested changing the opposed ends to read as opposed proximal and distal ends, and that this claim amendment should define over the applied prior art combinations of Pierce and Bramstedt.

Following that interview, this response amends the pending claims so that all remaining independent claims recite this subject matter.

In addition to it being submitted that the independent claims of the application are now in condition for allowance, certain withdrawn claims are believed to be proper to rejoin and include in an indication of allowability. This extends to dependent Claim 4, Claim 14 which has been amended to be a dependent claim and dependent Claim 22.

It is believed that the above claims clearly define over all art of record, and in that the claims are now in condition for allowance. If, upon consideration of this supplemental response, the Examiner is of the opinion that issues remain which could be resolved by telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned and discuss same.

It is believed that no fee is due in connection with this paper. If any fee is due, please charge same to Deposit Account 02-0184.

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George D. Hermann et al.

By /george a. coury/ George A. Coury BACHMAN & LAPOINTE, P.C. Reg. No. 34,309 Attorney for the Applicant(s) Tel:(203)777-6628 ext. 113 Fax:(203)865-0297 Email:docket@bachlap.com

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